

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing Of All Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
  
generating packets of content data to be broadcast from a content provider system via a  
  
network wherein the packets of content data include metadata describing the content  
  
data;  
  
composing a playlist designating an order in which said packets of content are to be  
  
broadcast;  
  
composing a transmission of said packets of content data based on said playlist; and  
  
executing said transmission of said packets of content data according to said playlist and a  
  
transmission policy, wherein the transmission policy includes one or more properties  
  
describing how said packets of content data should be transmitted over a delivery  
  
network;  
  
~~receiving said packets of content data at a receiver connected with said content provider~~  
  
~~system via said network; and~~  
  
~~selectively caching or presenting the packets based on a comparison of the metadata~~  
  
~~describing the content data and user profile information stored on the receiver.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said generating packets of content data and said composing a playlist are performed by the content provider system.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said composing a transmission and executing said transmission are performed by a broadcast system head-end.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said metadata comprises Extensible Markup Language (XML) tags.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said metadata comprises pre-show content discovery information.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said metadata comprises real-time content discovery information.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said generating packets of content data comprises:  
gathering content to be broadcast from a content cache on the content provider system;  
separating said content into packages and package elements within the packages;  
assigning each package and package element a unique identifier;  
storing said packages in a package cache;  
assigning metadata tags identifying content within the packages and package elements to the  
packages and package elements; and

marking tagged packages as ready for inclusion in playlists.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said composing a playlist comprises:  
grouping all related packages into content groups;  
encapsulating content groups into a playlist; and  
passing the playlist to a transmission composition process.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising concatenating two or more portions of metadata in the playlist prior to passing the playlist to a transmission composition process to generate metadata representing the entire playlist.
10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said encapsulating content groups into a playlist further comprises encapsulating said content groups into a Motion Picture Experts Group-2 (MPEG-2) multiplex.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said composing a transmission comprises:  
selecting a playlist for scheduling;  
defining playout policy parameters;  
determining bandwidth required to transmit the playlist;  
determining transmission policy parameters based on the bandwidth required to transmit the  
playlist and the playout policy parameters;  
assigning network resources to the playlist based on the transmission policy;  
caching the transmission as active and scheduled.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said executing said transmission comprises:
- reading a previously generated transmission;
  - loading transmission policy parameters;
  - encoding announcement data for each content package into an announcement data stream
    - describing a schedule of content to be broadcast during execution of the transmission;
  - encoding metadata for each content package into a metadata stream providing a description
    - of content within a content stream;
  - sending pre-show content discovery information describing a schedule of content to be
    - broadcast during execution of the transmission; and
  - sending announcement, metadata and content data streams according to a predefined timeslot
    - format.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
- receiving said packets of content data at a receiver connected with said content provider
    - system via said network; and
  - selectively caching or presenting the packets based on a comparison of the metadata
    - describing the content data and user profile information stored on the receiver,
- wherein said receiving said packets of content data comprises:
- reading the announcement data stream;
  - finding a predetermined metadata Uniform Resource Locator (URL) in the
    - announcement data stream identifying a location of the metadata stream;
  - decoding the metadata stream identified by the predetermined metadata URL;

correlating metadata from the decoded metadata stream to user profile information

stored within the receiver;

preparing cache space adequate to store content that has metadata matching the user profile information; and

caching packages with metadata highly correlated with the filtering criteria.

14. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a content provider system to generate packets of content data to be broadcast from the content provider system via a first network connected with the content provider system wherein the packets of content data include metadata describing the content data and compose a playlist designating an order in which said packets of content are to be broadcast; and

a broadcast system head-end connected with said content provider system via said first network to receive said packets of content data and said playlist, compose a transmission of said packets of content data based on said playlist, and execute said transmission of said packets of content data according to said playlist and a transmission policy, wherein the transmission policy includes one or more properties describing how said packets of content data should be transmitted over a delivery network; and

~~a receiver connected with said broadcast system head-end via a second network to receive said packets of content data and selectively cache or present the packets based on a comparison of the metadata describing the content data and user profile information stored on the receiver.~~

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said content provider system:  
gathers content to be broadcast from a content cache on the content provider system;  
separates said content into packages and package elements within the packages;  
assigns each package and package element a unique identifier;  
stores said packages in a package cache;  
assigns metadata tags identifying content within the packages and package elements to the  
packages and package elements; and  
marks tagged packages as ready for inclusion in playlists.
16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said content provider system:  
groups all related packages into content groups;  
encapsulates content groups into a playlist; and  
passes the playlist to a transmission composition process.
17. (Original) The system of claim 16, content provider system further concatenates two or more  
portions of metadata in the playlist prior to passing the playlist to a transmission composition  
process to generate metadata representing the entire playlist.
18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said broadcast system head-end:  
selects a playlist for scheduling;  
defines playout policy parameters;  
determines bandwidth required to transmit the playlist;

determines transmission policy parameters based on the bandwidth required to transmit the  
playlist and the playout policy parameters;  
assigns network resources to the playlist based on the transmission policy;  
caching the transmission as active and scheduled.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said broadcast system head-end:  
reads a previously generated transmission;  
loads transmission policy parameters;  
encodes announcement data for each content package into an announcement data stream  
describing a schedule of content to be broadcast during execution of the transmission;  
encodes metadata for each content package into a metadata stream providing a description of  
content within a content stream;  
sends pre-show content discovery information describing a schedule of content to be  
broadcast during execution of the transmission; and  
sends announcement, metadata and content data streams according to a predefined timeslot  
format.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, further comprising:  
  
a receiver connected with said broadcast system head-end via a second network to receive  
said packets of content data and selectively cache or present the packets based on a comparison of  
the metadata describing the content data and user profile information stored on the receiver, wherein  
said receiver:

reads the announcement data stream;

finds a predetermined metadata Uniform Resource Locator (URL) in the announcement data stream identifying a location of the metadata stream;

decodes the metadata stream identified by the predetermined metadata URL;

correlates metadata from the decoded metadata stream to user profile information stored within the receiver;

prepares cache space adequate to store content that has metadata matching the user profile information; and

caches packages with metadata highly correlated with the filtering criteria.

21. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, the sequences of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:
  - generate packets of content data to be broadcast from a content provider system via a network wherein the packets of content data include metadata describing the content data;
  - compose a playlist designating an order in which said packets of content are to be broadcast;
  - compose a transmission of said packets of content data based on said playlist; and
  - execute said transmission of said packets of content data according to said playlist and a transmission policy, wherein the transmission policy includes one or more properties describing how said packets of content data should be transmitted over a delivery network;



~~receive said packets of content data at a receiver connected with said content provider system via said network; and selectively cache or present the packets based on a comparison of the metadata describing the content data and user profile information stored on the receiver.~~

22. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said generating packets of content data and said composing a playlist are performed by the content provider system.
23. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said composing a transmission and executing said transmission are performed by a broadcast system head-end.
24. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said metadata comprises Extensible Markup Language (XML) tags.
25. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said metadata comprises pre-show content discovery information.
26. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said metadata comprises real-time content discovery information.
27. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said generating packets of content data comprises:  
  
gathering content to be broadcast from a content cache on the content provider system;

separating said content into packages and package elements within the packages;  
assigning each package and package element a unique identifier;  
storing said packages in a package cache;  
assigning metadata tags identifying content within the packages and package elements to the  
packages and package elements; and  
marking tagged packages as ready for inclusion in playlists.

28. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 27, wherein said composing a playlist comprises:

grouping all related packages into content groups;  
encapsulating content groups into a playlist; and  
passing the playlist to a transmission composition process.

29. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, further comprising concatenating two or more portions of metadata in the playlist prior to passing the playlist to a transmission composition process to generate metadata representing the entire playlist.

30. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein said composing a transmission comprises:

selecting a playlist for scheduling;  
defining playout policy parameters;  
determining bandwidth required to transmit the playlist;

determining transmission policy parameters based on the bandwidth required to transmit the  
playlist and the playout policy parameters;  
assigning network resources to the playlist based on the transmission policy;  
caching the transmission as active and scheduled.

31. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executing said transmission comprises:  
reading a previously generated transmission;  
loading transmission policy parameters;  
encoding announcement data for each content package into an announcement data stream  
describing a schedule of content to be broadcast during execution of the transmission;  
encoding metadata for each content package into a metadata stream providing a description  
of content within a content stream;  
sending pre-show content discovery information describing a schedule of content to be  
broadcast during execution of the transmission; and  
sending announcement, metadata and content data streams according to a predefined timeslot  
format.
32. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 31, further comprising:  
receive said packets of content data at a receiver connected with said content provider system  
via said network; and

selectively cache or present the packets based on a comparison of the metadata describing the

content data and user profile information stored on the receiver, wherein said

receiving said packets of content data comprises:

reading the announcement data stream;

finding a predetermined metadata Uniform Resource Locator (URL) in the announcement data stream identifying a location of the metadata stream;

decoding a metadata stream identified by the predetermined metadata URL;

correlating metadata from the decoded metadata stream to user profile information stored within the receiver;

preparing cache space adequate to store content that has metadata matching the user profile information; and

caching packages with metadata highly correlated with the filtering criteria.